

ASHOKAN WATERSHED STREAM MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

6375 State Rt. 28, Phoenicia, NY 12464 ♦ (845) 688-3047 ♦ www.ashokanstreams.org

What: Highway Managers Working Group Meeting
When: May 4, 2010, 9-11:00am
Where: AWSMP Office, Phoenicia, NY
Next Meeting: June 21st timeframe – discuss Best Practices

Present: Eric Hofmeister Mike Reynolds Cory Ritz
 Clyde Russell Colleen Griffith

1. Review of last meeting and updates

- Ashokan Watershed Floodplain Conference
Cory updated the group on the May 1st Floodplain Conference and provided them an overview of the content and the speakers. Mike stated that he attended the Municipal Floodplain Mapping Seminar training (FIRM) held on April 29th at SUNY New Paltz. Cory suggested that at the earliest possible opportunity each manager should review the maps to ensure that known flood prone areas are noted.
- Discussion regarding the impacts and potential benefit uses of the new maps and once available the possibility of each municipality adding overlays of culverts, signs, bridges and road surface conditions. Cory discussed the use of aerial photos and current LIDAR info in comparison with previous historical images and data to document stream movements over time.

Update on current projects

- A meeting with SEMO and FEMA was conducted on April 16th to review the Shandaken projects submitted. The review included the engineering package as well as an onsite visit to the area. AWSMP will match up to 25% of the cost of the project, Shandaken will provide inkind match and the remaining funding will be from FEMA Hazard Mitigation Funding. Mike stated that Woodstock has a project to replace two pipes below Cooper Lake that has been submitted for some time.

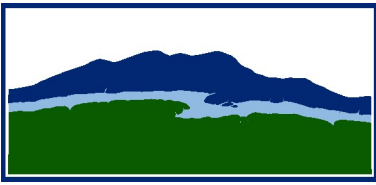
2. Look Forward – Next Steps

- Cornell University Trainings: Cory met David Orr, Cornell Local Roads Program at the recent conference and discussed the possibility of hosting a training here in for the Ashokan Watershed Highway Managers and key personnel. June 6th Cornell hosts their annual training in Ithaca for Highway Managers. Cory will continue to investigate possibilities of Cornell conducting additional trainings here in the fall.
- Cory distributed “Roadway and Roadside Drainage” materials presented at the Conference by Cornell Local Roads Program to the group. Page 57 in the manual outlines the procedure for Evaluation of Stream Constrictions and Culverts. Cory is taking under consideration the possibility of hiring someone to conduct an evaluation of culverts; measurements, visual



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inspection of condition, for the entire watershed. The group discussed how that could help provide a standardization of information. The town of Shandaken has a very good set of data already; Woodstock and Hurley have partial data without a centralized data system.

- The manual also provides a format calculating the watershed flows from any given point, Page 37. Cory will distribute the information regarding the web address to access the program. The AWSMP will have survey equipment and GPS equipment that can be utilized on a loner basis, some municipalities may have them, however they are a shared resource and not always able to schedule the use of.
- Discussion was had on Ulster County's proposal to CWC's Stormwater Retrofit Program for the acquisition of a "Street Sweeper". The proposal was focused on the country and town roads of Shandaken, Olive, Hurley, and Woodstock, due to the protection of the Ashokan reservoir, by cleaning pollutants from the roadways prior to it entering the stormwater drainage. Eric reviewed the specs on the truck that was proposed, and stated that the application was denied by the CWC. The county has a VAC vehicle housed in Boiceville that is available to all Watershed municipalities. The County also has a Hydro-Seeder although it would be desirable to have one dedicated to the watershed communities.
- Engineering and the proposed Cooperative Agreement with NRCS was discussed. It appears at this time we will be unable to reach an agreement for the use of the NRCS Engineer, currently based in the Ulster County Soil and Water Conservation District offices. AWSMP will have to look at sub-contracting with private companies for engineering services. This approach will limit the scope of those services to the major projects and force the smaller ones to fall to the side.
- AWSMP took NRCS engineers to Warner Creek, the county has two bridges scheduled for replacement there the current ones are causing constriction on the stream. Discussion regarding the county's Highway and Bridges department and its recent staffing downsizing.

Next Steps:

- Our next meeting should include field work to share best management practices. It would be good to include the ditch system installed by Woodstock; it is currently working very well.
- A tentative meeting date of June 21st was discussed.



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